

Development Control Performance

Quarter January-March 2011

Annual summary April 2010 – March 2011

SUMMARY

- 1 This report gives details of our statistical performance reported to the department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) on decisions made during the period Jan-Mar 2011 and the final annual performance figures for the year ending March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 To note the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3 The report is for information.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Our performance levels are shown on the tables in 4.2. Members should be aware that there are some categories of application that are not included in the CLG return but still represent work undertaken by the section. These include:
 - Applications for works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order or within a Conservation Area
 - Applications by Telecommunications operators for Prior Notification determination
 - Applications for Prior Notification of proposed demolition
 - Applications for Hazardous Substances Consent
 - Applications for Discharge of/Compliance with conditions of a previous permission
 - Applications for Non-material amendments
 - Applications called-in for determination by the Secretary of State
 - Application that are withdrawn, or finally disposed of.

4.2

	Government Target	Local Target	Jan - March 2011 Actual Performance (change from previous quarter)	Yr.April- Mar.
Major	60% in 13 weeks	70%	39% (-31%)	51% (-21%)
Minor	65% in 8 weeks	80%	77% (0%)	78% (+11%)
Other	80% in 8 weeks	85%	84% (0%)	83% (+3%)
Total Number Determined	-		271 (+11)	1267 (+88)
Total Number Received	-		311 (+14)	1279 (-58)

Type	Number of applications determined by category
Major:Residential	7
Offices/Light industrial	3
General industrial/warehousing	1
Retail and distribution	0
Gypsy and Traveller pitches	0
Others	2
Total	13

Minor:Residential	18
Offices/Light industrial	3
General industrial/warehousing	3
Retail and distribution	16
Gypsy and Traveller pitches	0
Others	29
Total	69
Others: Minerals	0
Change of use	23
Householder	118
Advertisements	26
Listed Building Consent	15
Conservation Area Consent	1
Cert. of Lawful development	6
Notifications	0
Total	189
Total	271

- 4.3 Of the decisions made in this statistical return this quarter, 90% were made under delegated powers.
- 4.4 Major applications: the local target was not achieved as we had 8 older applications brought forward for determination which gives me comfort regarding the improvement in the economy and development beginning to start.
- 4.5 Minor applications: In this quarter we fell short of the local target by only 3%

- 4.6 Other applications: We fell short of the local target by only 1%. The DC action plan is now in full effect and the benefits will come through in the next few weeks – the life of an application is up to 8 weeks and the performance improvements will be coming through as the processes become established with staff and importantly our regular agents.
- 4.7 In terms of managing the section I am actively monitoring the income, workload and performance to seek to achieve an acceptable balance. I have also embarked on a structural review to enable more focus on prompt delivery and to exceed customer expectations. In this respect, Members will note that the bulk of our workload is dealing with Householder applications, and in this quarter, we dealt with **84%** of this type of application within the 8 week target figure. Members should note that the percentage performance figure for Major applications does fluctuate because of the much lower number of actual applications, because of their complexity and because investors are only now seeking to resurrect older resolutions to grant.
- 4.8 In terms of annual performance the Major target was subject to the delays encountered as explained above, and I would rather seek to encourage the right major investment / development in the right place at the right time rather than refusal an application to just to meet a statistical figure.
- 4.9 The ‘minor’ and ‘other’ performance was up on last year by 11% and 3% respectively, only 2% below the local stretched targets, and that is against the backdrop of an increased number of applications determined.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5. None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	-
Financial officer	-
Human Resources officer	-
Service Director(s)	8 April 2011
Other(s)	-

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Background papers:	Communities and Local Government Statistical Release – Planning
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1 None.

Legal

2 None.

Personnel

3 None.

Equalities Impact

4 None.

Health and Safety

5 None.

Environmental Sustainability

6 None

Asset Management

7 None

Risk Management

8 None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

9 Our performance levels in dealing with planning applications have implications for delivering excellent services, performances and value for money (priority).